



SQUARE KNOT NOTES

Monthly Edition

From your Sam Houston Area Council Commissioner Team

June 2016

A SCOUT IS OBEDIENT

A Scout follows the rules of his family, school, and pack. He obeys the laws of his community and country.

BUILD STRONGER UNITS

A common element of strong units is they all have a good annual program planned a year in advance, that is then shared with all families in the form of a calendar. They also should have trained leaders and the right leaders. After Program Preview, units should conduct an annual program planning conference to get ready for the coming year. Using national planning resources, as well as various calendars (e.g., council, district, school, chartered partner), units can develop a program filled with safe and fun activities and adventures. Planning ahead allows the unit to generate new ideas, find resources, and allow more Scouts to have a quality program that is exciting and will create memories! The Program Guide contains valuable information about council and district programs, descriptions and calendars and is an essential tool for unit leaders. Leaders who want a meaningful, exciting, and comprehensive youth program that achieves the objectives of the Scouting program will find this format ideal. The result is a well-managed, well-financed unit. Recognizing this, the BSA recommends the following plan:

1. Plan your complete annual program.
2. Develop a budget that includes enough income to achieve the program. Identify the amount of product (e.g., popcorn, Scout Fair Coupon Books) that will need to be sold per youth member to reach the income goal. Attend the new Sales Training in July.
3. Get commitments from parents and youth.



IT'S A HIT

It is easy to forget the importance of being honest when you are playing a game and you really want to win. However, a Scout always tells the truth and is a person worthy of trust. This month, we will reinforce how important it is to be honest—notably when playing ball with friends.

2017 National Jamboree: July 19-28, 2017

Scouting's flagship event is a gathering of approximately 40,000 Scouts, leaders, and staff that showcases everything that is great about the BSA. Over the course of 10 days, once every four years, the BSA comes together for the national Scout jamboree. Scouts and Scouters will explore all kinds of adventures in the heart of one of nature's greatest playgrounds. With 10,000 acres at the Summit to explore, there's no shortage of opportunities to build Scouting memories. The council will take over 300 members to the national jamboree as part of the council contingent. The jamboree is open to Boy Scouts and Venturers on a first come first serve basis. Scouts will be assigned to a jamboree troop consisting of 36 Scouts and four adult leaders. Every Scout will be a member of a patrol within the troop. Contingent members will be required to attend troop meetings, submit a jamboree medical form signed by a physician and attend a contingent meeting. The projected cost to attend is \$1,975 and covers transportation, admission fees, meals, lodging, insurance and most patrol and troop equipment. After registering with the Sam Houston Area Council, contingent members will also need to complete a [online application with the National Council](#). All participants will have to agree to live by a jamboree code of conduct in order to be accepted. [Qualified](#) adult leaders are needed to serve as jamboree Scoutmasters, assistant Scoutmasters and Advisors. Limited [camperships](#) are available for youth to assist in the cost of attending the 2017 National Scout Jamboree. Serving on staff is a rewarding experience that lets you help make a young man or young woman's jamboree experience one they'll never forget. It's not all work, though. You'll get plenty of time to enjoy the jamboree fun. The excitement of the jamboree isn't limited to Scouts. The Summit features a large visitor area, where day-users can try out some of the activities. Whitewater rafting and kayaking, rock climbing and bouldering, and mountain biking are just a few of the activities offered at the Summit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 21 & 23 Sales Training

UNIT STRONG

Strong Units have year round recruitment and active summer calendars. Summer Camp, Day/Twilight Camp, and Resident Camp are great ways to keep boys excited about scouting.